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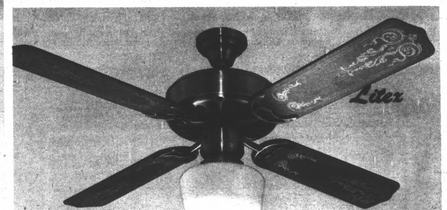

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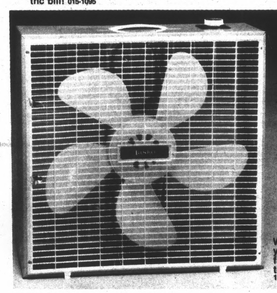

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Three vie for school board

By BILL SHERROD

Three nominees for the Southside District seat on the Appomattox County School Board will speak at a public hearing scheduled for next Wednesday (June 8) at 8 p.m. in the Appomattox County Court House.

The three--Nelson Mann, John M. Fedison, and Deborah Powell--have been nominated by petition to replace Mrs. Ruth Webb, who is retiring from the school board after 12 years representing the Southside District.

At Wednesday's hearing, each candidate will be allowed a five-minute period to state his or her qualifications, and each candidate will be allowed to have three persons speak on his or her behalf, for a maximum of two minutes per speaker.

Following the hearing, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors will consider the qualifications of each nominee, and announce at the June 10 Supervisors' meeting who the new School Board member will be.

Following are brief background sketches of each of the nominees:

Nelson Mann

Deborah Powell

John M. Fedison

Nelson Mann is an Appomattox County native who graduated from Appomattox High School in 1958. He is married to the former Della Nash. They have three children, one of whom graduated from Appomattox County High School last year, and is currently a student at Lynchburg College. Mann's other two children are both in Appomattox public schools.

Mann is employed with General Electric in Lynchburg, and is a part-time farmer. He has been a member of the Appomattox County Youth Association for the past ten years, and has served as vice president of that organization for the past three years. He has also served as a coach in the ACYA, and is a member of the ACHS Athletic Boosters Club. He has also attended PTA functions in the county.

Speaking on his candidacy for the Appomattox County School Board, Mann says that he would, as a board member, "strive to continually improve the quality of education in the county while keeping the budget within reason."

Mann adds that many of those who asked him to seek the school board seat nomination feel there should be a school board member who lives in a rural area. Mann, who lives on the County Line road, says he feels he could well represent the interests of rural residents of the county as a membr of the school board.

Deborah Powell is a Richmond-area native who attended public schools in the City of Richmond and received a degree in economics from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg.

She is married to Dr. Kenneth Powell, and they have two chidlren, both in Appomattox County public schools.

She has been active in Appomattox County public schools in a variety of capacities. She has been chairman of the PTA committee for four years, and served as president of the Appomattox Primary School PTA for one year. She has served as Primary School volunteer coordinator for the past two years, and has worked as a volunteer at both the Primary and Elementary schools.

Powell is also on the Appomattox Primary School Planning Committee, and serves on the Five-Year Planning Committee for Appomattox County Schools.

Regarding her candidacy for the Appomattox County School Board, Powell says that she would "like to see continued growth in our school system, with special emphasis on academic improvement."

She adds that "since I have been active in the public school system, there has been growth -- improvement resulting largely from parent involvement. I think a continued increase in parent involvement will bring about a natural improvement in the quality of our school programs."

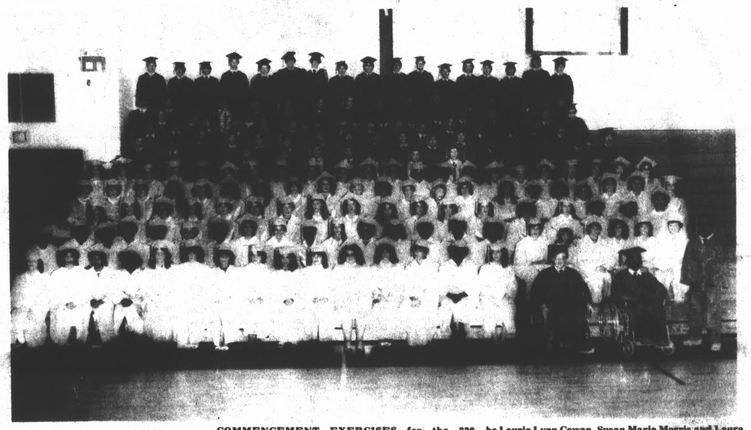
John M. Fedison is a native of New Jersey who attended Columbia University for two years, and who received a BS degree in education from the University of Florida.

He served as a school teacher in Florida for two years before entering the Medical College of Virignia, where he received his DDS. He has worked as a dentist in the Town of Appomattox for 12 years. He is married to the former Virginia Davis, and they have three children, all in Appomattox County public schools.

Fedison has been involved with the Appomattox County Youth Association as a coach and is a member of the Association's finance committee.

If selected for membership on the school board, Fedison says that he would "like to see continued improvement in the academic and college preparatory programs, within budget constraints, and not at the expense of our vocational education programs."

Fedison adds that he recognizes that the school population is declining, and with that decline will come a reduction in the amount of federal and state school funds. In light of this, he says, "we will have to work to maintain quality education on a budget that will probably be reduced."



Class of 1983

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES for the 220 graduating seniors of Appomattox County High School will be held Friday (June 3) at the stadium at Appomattox Middle School. In case of inclement weather, exercises will be held in the auditorium at Appomattox County High School. Class speakers will be Laurie Lynn Cowan, Susan Marie Morris and Laura Gray Walton, Tri-Valedictorians, and Derwin Harvey, Salutatorian. Comprehensive coverage of the Class of 1983 can be found in the special graduation issue within this week's Times-Virginian. (Photo by Shearer B. Robertson)

Monte Mays will run for office again

Monte Mays

Monte Mays is announcing this week his candidacy for reelection for the office of Commissioner of the Revenue.

"It has been a privilege and a pleasure as Commissioner to serve all the people in the County of Appomattox for the past seven years. I want to thank those individuals who signed my petitions to run for the office of Commissioner," said Mays this week.

Mays, appointed Commissioner of the Revenue in 1977, was elected to the office in 1977 and reelected in 1980. He was appointed Marriage Celebrant for Appomattox County in 1978.

In 1981 Mays was elected State Secretary Treasurer for Commissioner of the Revenue Association of Virginia; re-elected to this office in 1982. He was elected Secretary for the Appomattox County Development Corporation in 1982 and Secretary-Treasurer for the Appomattox County Development Corporation in 1983.

Mays is a member of Virginia Association of Assessing Officers; Virginia Association of Local Executive Constitutional Officers; a member of Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia; a member of Moose Lodge of Appomattox County, of Liberty Baptist Church; a member of the Farm Bureau Appomattox County Development Corporation and Lynchburg College Alumni Association.

A 1968 graduate of Appomattox County High School and 1972 graduate of Lynchburg College with a BS degree in Business Administration, Mays is married to the former Linda Moses. They have two sons, Wade and Thomas.

"I attend annual schools and seminars necessary to stay abreast of the ever-changing laws involving taxation and real estate transactions," said Mays. "But any comments, advice, or suggestions from you, the voters, that would enable the Commissioner's Office to better serve you, are always welcome. I sincerely appreciate your support and vote of confidence," he concluded.

Voter registration post planned Saturday

A satellite voter-registration post will be manned in Appomattox County this Saturday, (June 4) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of Food World in the Triangle Plaza Shopping Center, according to Betty K. Ford, Appomattox County general registrar.

Ford notes that the Virginia Constitution "requires that you be registered in the precinct in which you live in order to be qualified to vote."

The Voter Registration office in Appomattox County, located in the County Court House complex at 125 Court Street, Appomattox, is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from noon to 5 p.m.

The Voter Registration office will also be open on Friday, Sept. 2, 1983 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, Oct. 8, 1983 from 8:30 to 11:30 and from noon to 5 p.m. October 8 is the final day of registration before the November general elections.

In addition, county residents may register to vote at the Locust Grove Farm Shop on State Road 641 between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 11 and Saturday, Aug. 20.

Registration for absentee voting in Appomattox County will be conducted at the Voter Registration office on Saturday, Oct. 29 and on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from noon to 5 p.m.

Ford notes that there are currently 5,021 registered voters in Appomattox County. The 1980 Census, which includes citizens of voting age as well as citizens too young to vote, indicates that there are 11,971 voters in this county.

"We encourage everyone to make applications for voter registration," Ford notes. "A good citizen registers and votes."

She adds that the name of any registered voter who does not vote in a four-year period is purged from the voter registration list, and that person would have to register again in order to vote in future elections.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Appeared to me that Memorial Day was a quiet one in and around Appomattox. Post Office and banks closed, but schools were open. Many workers had a holiday and elected to say home and catch up on chores. I went through town mid morning and saw one flag flying. But surely during the day everyone found time to give thanks to all those who served our country in time of peril.

* * *

We don our hat to Brad Babcock. Appomattox native who is a highly successful college baseball coach. Babcock, 44, is the son of Mrs. A. A. Babcock and the late Mr. Babcock. He is in his thirteenth year as baseball coach at James Madison University and his record is 354 wins, 148 losses, two ties. In baseball, .704 is a fabulous average. Brad's team has just won the East Regionals of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and Friday of this week will be in Omaha, Neb. to play for the national championship. The final teams in the East Regionals included U. of North Carolina, U. of South Carolina, The Citadel, U. of Delaware, William and Mary. South Carolina has been undefeated in regular season, UNC had a 25-3 record. Win or lose at Omaha, we are proud of Coach Babcock, of Appomattox and The Dukes of JMU.

* * *

Doing some pruning in my backyard Friday, I came upon a dead twig in the shape of a perfect Cross. Three by 1½ inches. Nature's craftsmanship.

* * *

Thanks to Mrs. Rachel Lawson for bringing me an old letter file containing letters, papers, clippings saved by her father, the late State Senator S. L. Ferguson. Will read.

* * *

Sorry to have missed Mrs. Martha Stimpson, Brookneal, formerly of Appomattox, who dropped by and left a note Sunday while we were out. Please visit again.

* * *

Magnolias are in bloom around town. Mine will be the last to bloom, but appears to be having one of its better years.

* * *

Just planted: some miniature sunflowers. They grow to be only a foot, maybe two, high.

* * *

Remembrance: I was recalling that we used to make flyswatters from old window screens. Was one of my jobs around the home when I was a pre teenager.

* * *

Had a pleasant chat with Bro. E. B. Davis of Pamplin. We spoke of the many fine old families in and around Pamplin, the town's history and splendid contribution to our area.

* * *

Neatest thing seen lately. Was driving my car and stopped at a local traffic light when a motorcycle eased up beside me. A live, barking dog. A terrier. The cage was covered mostly by screen wire so the dog could see out and enjoy the ride.

* * *

Thanks for reading and seeya around.

School board to meet

The Appomattox County School Board will meet Wednesday (June 8) at 3:30 p.m. in the school board office on Main Street, Appomattox.

Included on the agenda are the regular monthly reports, as well as reports on summer activities within the system, enrollment, and change orders for school renovation projects.

THE LIFE BE IN IT Whistle Stop Relay is ready to roll through the towns of Appomattox and Pamplin on June 2. The Appomattox Celebrity Relay will begin Thursday, June 2 at 5 p.m. in front of Robinson's Funeral Home and following the Parade Route. The Pamplin Celebrity Relay will be at 6:15 p.m. on June 2 and wind around the town. In the event of rain, the Relays are re-scheduled for Saturday, June 4 at 10 a.m. in Appomattox and 11:15 in Pamplin. The 21 miles of Appomattox County will be covered by theWhistle Stop Relay on June 3 beginning at the Campbell County line at 5 p.m. and ending at the Prince Edward County ilge at 7 p.m. Over 80 people are included in the three Relay events. Pictured are two of the younger participants, 'Ashley Lawson and Ryan Coffman, ready for action on their Big Wheel and Julie Coffman and Bill Britton, co-coordinators for the Appomattox leg of the Whistle Stop Relay.

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